

SENATE BILL 3596

By Burchett

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3,  
Chapter 6, Part 3, relative to lobbying.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-6-305(b), is amended by deleting subdivision (10) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(10)

(A) Food, refreshments, meals, or beverages that are provided by an employer of a lobbyist or a lobbyist to an official in the legislative branch or official in the executive branch; provided, that:

(i) No employer of a lobbyist or lobbyist may provide food, refreshments, meals, or beverages the value of which to the official exceeds seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per day, excluding sales tax and gratuity; nor may such employer of a lobbyist or lobbyist provide any such food, refreshments, meals, or beverages to any official pursuant to this subdivision (b)(10)(A) that has a cumulative value of more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) during a calendar year; and

(ii) The value of any such food, refreshments, meals, or beverages may not be reduced below such monetary limitations by dividing the cost of the gift among two (2) or more employers of lobbyists or lobbyists.

(B) The seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) and one thousand dollar (\$1000) amounts in subdivision (b)(10)(A)(i) shall only apply to gifts provided pursuant to this subdivision (b)(10) and shall be increased to the nearest one dollar (\$1.00) amount to reflect the percentage of change in the average consumer price index

(all items-city average) as published by the United States department of labor, bureau of labor statistics, every odd-numbered year on January 1 starting in 2009. The ethics commission shall publish the increased amount on its web site.

(C)

(i) No later than the seventh day of each month, each employer of a lobbyist and lobbyist shall file electronically with the ethics commission a statement of all expenditures made to provide food, refreshments, meals, or beverages to an official in the legislative branch or official in the executive branch during the previous month pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision (10). The statement shall include the date of each such gift, the value of the gift, and the name of the recipient.

(ii) No later than the seventh day of each month, each official in the legislative branch and official in the executive branch shall file electronically with the ethics commission a statement of all food, refreshments, meals, or beverages received by such official from an employer of a lobbyist or a lobbyist during the previous month pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision (10). The statement shall include the date of each such gift, the value of the gift, and the name of the employer of a lobbyist or lobbyist who provided such gift.

SECTION 2. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it.